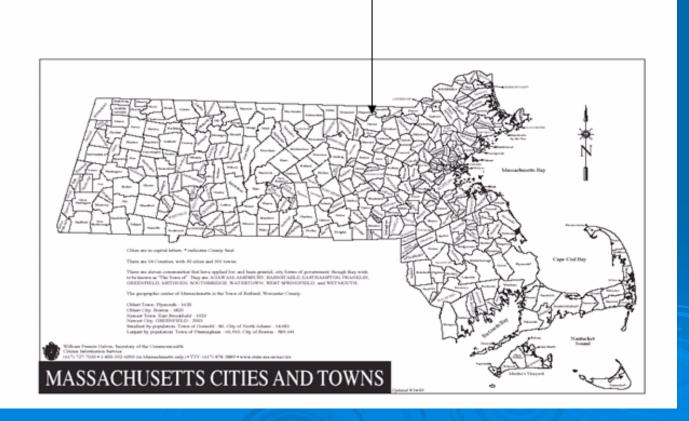
# TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

### **Groton's Experience**

Michelle Collette, AICP
Town Planner

#### Groton, Massachusetts

The Town of Groton is located 35 miles northwest of Boston and 15 miles south of Nashua, New Hampshire



### Groton's Community Profile

Land Area: 32.5 square miles

Population: 10,483

Government: Open Town Meeting

Open Space: 6825 acres or 33%

Affordable Units: 182 Units or 5.5%

Public Water: 60%

Public Sewer: 15%

Rivers: Nashua & Squannacook

ACEC: Squannassit/Petapawag

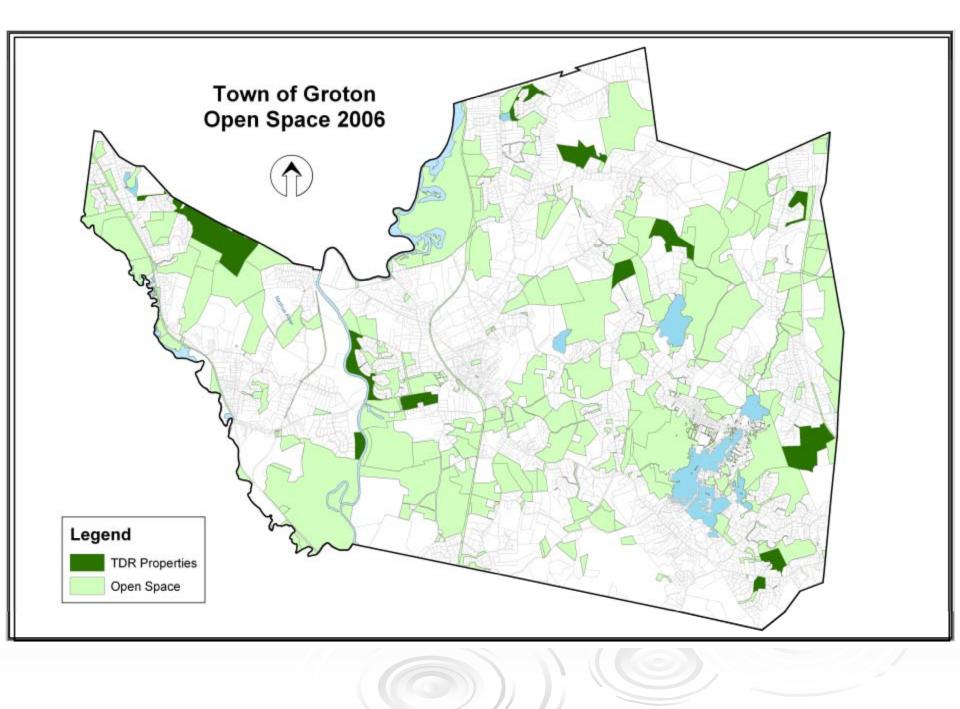
### History of Groton's TDR's

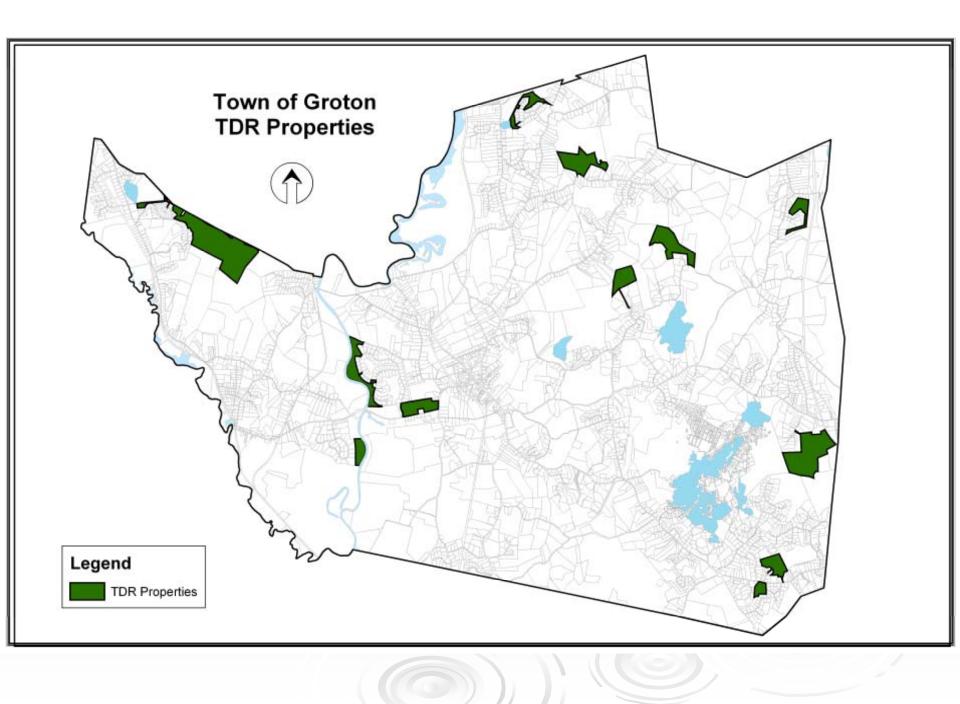
- TDR's adopted in 1980 as part of the Flexible Development provisions
- Planning Board is the Special Permit Granting Authority
- One "TDR" incentive lot for every 80,000 sq ft of permanently protected upland area
- Protected land must be of "special importance" for protection of natural resources

- Open space must be donated to the Groton Conservation Commission or made subject to a conservation restriction under Chapter 184, sections 31-33
- By-law amended in 1988 to allow use of TDR's to accelerate growth under Development Rate Limitation
- By-law amended in 2003 to provide <u>two</u> bonus incentive <u>units</u> for one TDR

#### Use of TDR Provisions

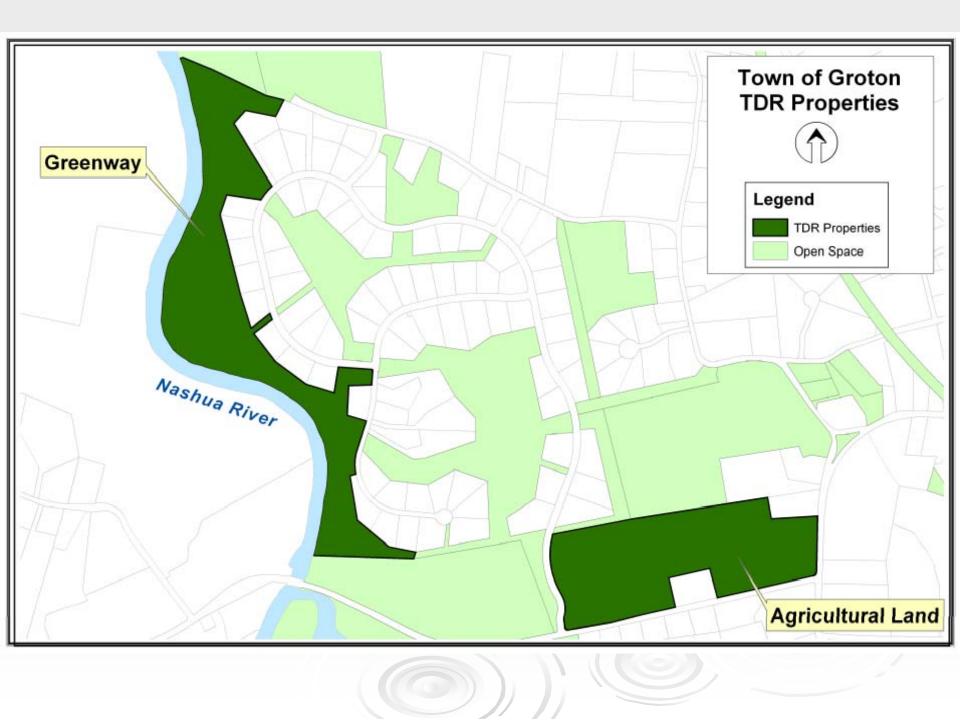
- > 12 special permits granted to date
- > 147 TDR's created
- > 666 acres open space protected
- > 2 additional lots created in subdivisions
- 25 TDR's donated to the Groton Housing Authority for affordable housing purposes
- > 52 TDR's used to accelerate growth
- > 68 TDR's still available for use





#### Protected by TDR's

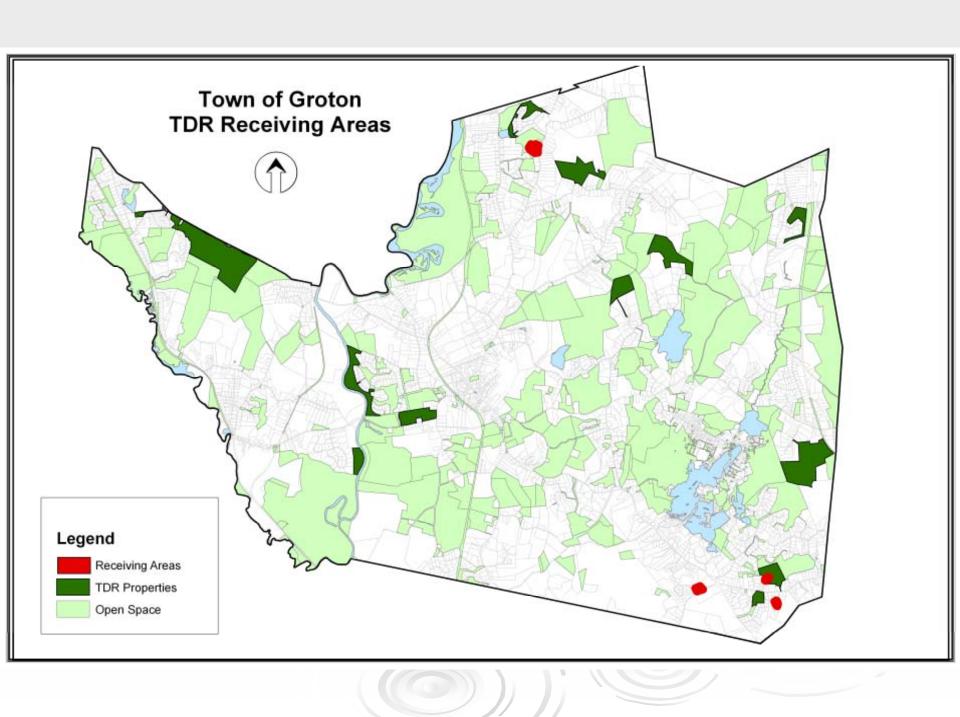
- River greenways
- Public water supply watershed areas
- Prime agricultural land
- > Wildlife and endangered species habitat
- Passive recreation trails
- Active playing fields



## River Greenway







#### Active Recreational Fields





# Groton Housing Authority Nine Rental Units



#### Future of TDR's

- Work with developers and the Groton Housing Authority to use TDR's and the inclusionary zoning requirements to create more affordable units
- Work with developers and conservation organizations to protect natural resources
- Propose an amendment to use the Station Avenue redevelopment area in the Town Center as a "receiving" district





"The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction."